



Press Release (No. 12-01-04)

December 24, 2004

Local INSCOM Soldier Dies in Mosul

FORT BELVOIR, Va. – A Soldier from the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command was killed in action Tuesday, Dec. 21, during an attack on Forward Operating Base Marez, Mosul, Iraq.

Sgt. Maj. Robert D. Odell, 38, of Manassas, Va., died of injuries received as the result of an explosion in the base dining tent. Twenty-one others were also killed and 72 injured. The military investigation into the cause of the blast continues.

Odell, a communications expert, was working in support of the Global War on Terrorism. Odell entered the service in Sept. 1985. During his 19 year military career Odell served in a range of assignments in locations from Fort Benning, Ga., Fort Bragg, N.C., Fort Campbell, Ky. and various overseas locations to include his final mission in Iraq. He is the recipient of many distinguished awards and commendations to include: the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star and Purple Heart, all awarded posthumously; his other awards include three Meritorious Service Medals, three Joint Service Commendation Medals, and two Army Commendation Medals.

Odell is survived by a wife and three children. He is the fifth member of INSCOM killed in action while supporting the GWOT.

The U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command is a major Army command headquartered at Fort Belvoir, Va., with brigades and groups worldwide. The command conducts intelligence, security and information operations for military commanders and national decision makers.

-30-

For additional information contact INSCOM Public Affairs at (703) 428-4965.